

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-03

INR-10 NSAE-00 OC-06 RSC-01 COME-00 CG-00 ACDA-19

DODE-00 PM-07 L-03 NASA-04 NSC-10 SCI-06 IO-13 SS-15

RSR-01 /135 W

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R 051905 Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1559

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E. O.: 11 652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, TSPA, XG, FR

SUBJ: TELECOMMUNICATIONS: RESOLUTION OF ESRO AEROSAT BOARD

1. SUMMARY-- IN RESOLUTION ADOPTED JULY 4 AEROSAT BOARD OF ESRO DECIDED FURTHER POSTPONE CHOICE OF US PARTNER AND REQUESTED SECRETARIAT DRAW UP PROPOSALS FOR ALTERNATIVE EUROPEAN AERONAUTICAL SATELLITE PROJECTS. RESOLUTION NOTES USG MAY AGAIN BE UNABLE SIGN AEROSAT MOU; KALTENECKER INFORMS US THIS READING OF USG ATTITUDE STEMS FROM RECENT WASHINGTON TALKS. ESRO COUNCIL MEETS JULY 31 ON AEROSAT.

2. KALTENECKER OF ESRO ASKED TO SEE EMBOFF TODAY AND PRESENTED HIM WITH TEXT OF RESOLUTION VOTED JULY 4 BY AEROSAT BOARD OF ESRO. KALTENECKER ASKED THAT TEXT BE BROUGHT SOONEST TO ATTENTION APPROPRIATE USG AUTHORITIES IN WASHINGTON. TEXT FOLLOWS:

" THE AERONAUTICAL SATELLITE PROGRAM BOARD,

RECALLING RESOLUTION ESRO/ PB- AERO/ VI/ RES. 11 ADOPTED AT ITS PREVIOUS MEETING.

NOTING THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MAY AGAIN BE UNABLE
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TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING NEGOTIATED BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN STATES, CANADA AND THE COMPETENT UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATIONS;

CONSIDERING THAT IN ITS PRESENT FORM THE MOU IS AT A REFINED STAGE OF AGREEMENT AND THAT EUROPE IS AT THE LIMIT OF THE CONCESSIONS WHICH IT IS PREPARED TO MAKE;

CONSIDERING THE URGENCY FOR EUROPE TO REACH A FINAL DECISION ON THE AERONAUTICAL PROGRAMS;

-- REAFFIRMS THE IMPORTANCE IT ATTACHES TO COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED, AND HOPES THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL APPROVE THEM AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE;

-- HAVING REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THERE HAS BEEN MENTION IN THE UNITED STATES OF A VHF EXPERIMENT, CONSIDERS THAT THE ICAO DECISIONS CANNOT BE CALLED INTO QUESTION AND THAT A VHF EXPERIMENT IS UNACCEPTABLE;

-- CONSIDERS THAT IT MUST THEREFORE PREPARE, FORTHWITH AND FOR ALL PURPOSES, FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF A EUROPEAN PROGRAMME IN THE SPIRIT OF THE AEROSAT PROGRAMME AND OPEN TO THE COOPERATION OF OTHER PARTNERS;

-- DECIDES TO POSTPONE THE CHOICE OF AMERICAN PARTNER IN RESPECT OF THE SPACE SEGMENT;

-- REQUESTS THE SECRETARIAT, IN CONSEQUENCE, TO:

(A) PRESENT TO IT FOR CONSIDERATION AT ITS NEXT MEETING VARIOUS ALTERNATIVE EUROPEAN AERONAUTICAL SATELLITE PROJECTS USING, FOR EXAMPLE, THE POSSIBILITIES OFFERED BY THE OTS PLATFORM;

(B) BRING THIS RESOLUTION TO THE NOTICE OF THE AMERICAN AND CANADIAN ADMINISTRATIONS, AND REPORT BACK TO IT AT ITS NEXT MEETING."

3. KALTENACKER SAID FIRMNESS OF RESOLUTION REFLECTS CONTINUING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONCERN WITH WHICH ESRO MEMBER STATES VIEW US ATTITUDE TOWARD AEROSAT AND FUTURE OF THAT PROGRAM. END JULY DEADLINE SET IN EARLIER RESOLUTION (PARIS 15639) IS THUS REAFFIRMED AND STRENGTHENED BY DECISION FURTHER POSTPONE CHOICE OF US PRIVATE PARTNER. KALTENECKER INDICATED THAT ESRO COUNCIL NOW SCHEDULED MEET ON JULY 31 AND, TO BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE, AEROSAT WAS ONLY ITEM ON AGENDA. AT THAT TIME IF NO USG COMMITMENT TO AEROSAT

PROGAM YET FORTHCOMING, COUNCIL WOULD BE FACED WITH POLITICAL
DECISION OF WHETHER PROCEED WITH ALTERNATIVE EUROPEAN
SATELLITE PROGRAM AS ENVISAGED IN ABOVE RESOLUTION.

4. KALTENECKER INDICATED THAT READING OF USG ATTITUDE REFLECTED
IN SECOND PREAMBULAT PARA OF RESOLUTION RESULTED FROM RECENT
CONVERSATIONS ESRO OFFICIALS HAD HAD WITH VARIOUS INTERESTED USG
AGENCIES IN WASHINGTON. ESRO CONCERNED OVER POSSIBLE US INTEREST
IN VHF BAND ALSO DOUBTLESS EXPLAINED HIS INTEREST IN OBTAINING
WRITTEN CONFIRMATION STATEMENT OF USG POSITION ON UHF USE
CONTAINED STATE 128614, WHICH WAS PROVIDED HIM EARLIER. KALTEN-
ECKER REITERATED VHF SIMPLY OUT OF THE QUESTIONS INsofar AS ESRO
IS CONCERNED.

5. KALTENECKER MENTIONED POST- APOLLO COOPERATION ONLY IN PASSING
AND DID NOT LINK TO AEROSAT QUESTION.

6. COMMENT: IT WOULD APPEAR THAT ESRO' S PATIENCE WEARS THINNER
AFTER IT CONSIDERS TO BE LONG FOOTDRAGGING BY USG RE AEROSAT.
EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE CURRENT READING OF PRESENT WASHINGTON
THINKING ON WHERE WE GO FROM HERE, AS WELL AS IN DUE COURSE
INDICATION OF REACTION TO BE CONVEYED TO ESRO WITH REFERENCE
TO FOREGOING RESOLUTION.
IRWIN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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